

# CLARKSVILLE WEEKLY CHRONICLE.

R. H. YANCEY, Editor.

## OUR NARROW GAUGE.

What has become of all the projects for the completion of the I. A. & T. railroad? The town was alive with them about two weeks ago, but they all seem to have been snowed under or frozen out by the blizzard.

It is a pity some prompt action can't be taken in this matter. It is very essential to the city's welfare that the road should be finished, or at least that the portion completed be put in such condition that it can be successfully operated.

This railroad to Princeton has been the dream of Clarksville for years, the pet project on which she has based her hopes of future greatness, and it would indeed be disappointing that the scheme should fall through when it has come so near realization.

The practical benefits that Clarksville will derive from the completion of the road are too apparent to be disputed. The trade of the city and its tobacco receipts have already been greatly enhanced by the portion built, though it has been operated in a very unsatisfactory manner.

Then, too, the people of Clarksville already have a great deal of money invested in the road, which will have been spent to but little purpose if the road be allowed to remain in its present condition.

There are two things concerning this road now that are not only very desirable but essential to the city's welfare. The first is, that the road be speedily completed and put in condition to haul the coming tobacco crop. The other is that the road, when finished, remain under local control.

The last proposition made by Major Gordon has merit, in that it proposes both of these. True, it calls for the exchange of interest bearing bonds for stock, and railroad stocks rarely ever pay a dividend, but the hope of ever realizing the interest on the bonds in the shape the road now is, must be very remote. It looks like the quickest return on the money invested must be from the general advantage the city will derive from the completion of the road.

The CHRONICLE feels a diffidence in urging any specific action in this matter, but after due consideration we can't see that any better way out of the difficulty is offered than that the Gordon proposition affords. We are not going so far as to advocate its acceptance, but we will remark that in as much as it promises a speedy completion of the road and local control of it when it is completed, it is the thing needed. The bondholders are safe in that there is to be no exchange of securities until the \$90,000 to be expended is placed in the hands of the local directors.

We would be glad to hear of a better plan for accomplishing the same result. The local syndicate plan, proposed in an open letter circulated by a prominent citizen some time ago, was objectionable in that it did not promise a speedy completion of the road, and proposed a considerable outlay of money only to obtain possession of the road as already built and equipped. The plan would be good enough if there was plenty of money to be had, but a difficulty is therein presented that looks rather stupendous.

The dangerous and doubtful possibilities that may come from a sale of the road ought to be avoided, and in order to do so very prompt action is required.

## PURITY IN POLITICS.

It is not altogether a pleasing spectacle, or one that holds up in a favorable light our popular institutions, that the President pro tem. of the Senate should leave his place in that body and go home to lobby with a State Legislature for re-election.

Senator Sherman would not only be very artless, but exceedingly green, if he should expect to secure any kind of office in Ohio without working for it—we might say scheming for it—but while he may be personally excusable on that ground, it is nevertheless painful to know that American politics have reached such a low point.

Ohio, politically, is probably one of the most corrupt States in the Union, and it would hardly be fair, on that account, to take it as a sample of the whole country, but it is still, in a great degree, representative, and its condition is indicative of what the whole country is fast coming to. It would be considered a story fit for the marines if it were said of any member of Congress, either in the House or Senate, that his office was thrust upon him, or even that he obtained it without a certain amount of political chicanery.

Ohio is now represented in the Senate by two millionaires. One of them secured his seat by the aid of an objectionable "boss" and means almost openly corrupt. The other has managed to acquire his immense fortune while continually in politics, and filling offices

the salaries of which were not sufficient for his support.

The advent of the millionaire Senator, is an ill omen for America, but it is the natural out-growth of the political methods and habits into which the country has fallen.

One great cause of this state of affairs, is that the people no longer rule and everything is manipulated by political machines. The spoils system has created these machines and they are supported by a shrewd and severe use of the party lash. The country has come to be divided between two sets of men calling themselves Democrats and Republicans, who really battle more for the spoils of office than for their professed principles. In both of these parties therefore, the professional politician asserts himself and machine methods are resorted to. Certainly it is not necessary to the carrying out of any vital principal that the triumphant party dispense all the petty offices of the Nation as rewards for party service. If we can ever have genuine Civil Service Reform, machine politics will have received a heavy blow and therein lies the best hope for purer methods.

WHAT does the Union City Anchor mean by the following, concerning the late E. A. James: "Always a Democrat, he often grew restive under the restraints of party discipline and in that way marred his usefulness as a party leader." Probably our contemporary thinks *restless* too commonplace a word for use in its columns.

## MATTERS AND THINGS.

—The Mississippi river is reported full of floating ice at Memphis.

—The appointment of Gen. B. F. Cheatham as postmaster at Nashville has been confirmed by the Senate.

—The Memphis base-ball club has purchased the franchise of the Columbus club to a place in the Southern league, paying \$1,000 for the same.

—The steamer Dolphin having made a successful trip it is probable that she will at last be accepted by the Government and paid for out of the national treasury.

—The Nashville Union thinks the Edmunds Repression Bill, which recently passed the Senate, "the doom of the Mormon church, unless that church, like every other sect, is willing to submit to the laws of the country."

—Cleveland Leader is authority for the statement that an enterprising Pittsburgh woman is about to start an escort bureau in Washington, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, where young ladies without beaux can secure escorts for the theater by paying \$25. She is allowed to choose from an album a face to her taste, and the young man pays all the expenses.

—A Washington special says: The senate had a hot time in the executive session this afternoon over the president's appointments. In cases where Republicans had been removed without cause, other than their political views, the speeches on the Republican side were extremely acrimonious and gave evidence of a determination to make war in all cases of this class. A fight will be made against every case of this character as it is reached, and all those so opposed were laid aside without action. Nearly all these confirmed were cases of persons appointed to succeed Republicans whose terms had expired.

—According to a number of newspapers and politicians in this State it's a mighty mean thing to be a railroad attorney, but judging from the subjoined paragraph it must be rather agreeable to fill such a place. It is somewhat on the naughty but nice order. We clip the from the Bolivar Bulletin:

A day or two before Christmas Judge Fentress received a check for \$3,000 from the Illinois Central Railroad Co., and the fellow accompanying the check stated that it was additional compensation for his services as general attorney for the road for 1885. His regular salary was \$10,000 per annum, which made his salary for 1885, the neat sum of \$13,000. He was also notified that after the 1st of January, 1886, his salary would be \$15,000 per year. This action of the company, as we understand, was unsolicited, and was quite a surprise to Judge Fentress. This is the largest salary paid any attorney in the State of Tennessee and perhaps in the South. Judge Fentress is a fine lawyer, and is in every way worthy of the high esteem in which he is held by the Railroad Company which he has served so faithfully for the last eight or ten years, and his friends are gratified at his success.

A GENUINE coasting carnival was held on the hillside on High street this week, and the same sport was indulged in in other parts of the city.

"The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow"

made it lovely out of doors, and the temperature had risen sufficiently to render it otherwise pleasant. Ladies and girls participated in the rollicking sport with the young men and boys, and they all had lots of fun.

# SEED! SEED!

CLOVER SEED, RED TOP,  
ORCHARD GRASS,

OATS, and TIMOTHY,  
—ALSO—

HAY, BRAN. CORN,  
In Ear or Shred, and  
Cotton Seed Meal,  
All at Low Prices.

KEESE & NORTHINGTON.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1886.

While Congress has done nothing startling since it reassembled, almost everything that has occurred on Capitol Hill during the week has been fraught with interest and importance. The Senate has discussed and voted against the Mormons, and incidentally against woman suffrage. Steps were taken towards over-hauling the street railways of Washington, as well as the United States pension office, and the Congressional Record was embellished with considerable eloquence on silver coinage. Senator Beck exonerated himself from his recent alleged antagonism to the President. About one thousand new bills were introduced in the House and the Speaker completed the organization of that body by formally announcing where he has had assigned his 325 men on his forty-eight committees.

There is no more than the usual amount of dissatisfaction among members on account of their positions on the committees. Indeed I think there was less complaint than was expected, and the general verdict of those who have no personal interests in the great questions with which these committees are to deal, is, that Speaker Carlisle has arranged them with wisdom and fairness.

There are so many new members in the present House, that their assignments had to be made somewhat blindly, as their special abilities had not been tested. But the Speaker profited by his experience in the Forty-eighth Congress in placing the old members with a view to their qualifications. The more prominent committees which have the most important work to do are strong.

With each Congress the task of organizing the House is becoming a more delicate and burdensome one. The question has been raised whether the labor should any longer be thrown upon one man.

Both branches of Congress are now ready for real work, any amount of which is waiting for them. It is thought the session will continue until August. About three thousand bills have been presented in the House alone. Among those that have been introduced in the Senate is one demanding longer sessions of Congress, so that the country can have more work for the same money. The sessions ought to be continuous, with only such short recesses as other business men take from their labors. The pay of Congressmen goes on whether they are in session or not. While it is a very agreeable arrangement to them for Congress, to sit only ten or eleven months out of the twenty-four, public business suffers from neglect.

The list of bills with which Congress is flooded furnishes proof of American inventive genius. Among them are many old-timers that come up and die out with every new Congress. One bill asks that for the remainder of her life the widow of Gen. Grant may correspond with her friends and her friends with her, without paying postage.

The most popular measure is one for the establishment of Agricultural Experiment Stations. Nearly all the members from rural districts have introduced it in one form or another. About a dozen Civil Service bills have been presented and a new bill asks for the establishment of a National University here. It provides instruction in the higher branches of all departments of knowledge, with facilities for research and investigation. Space forbids me to give the full terms of the bill, but I will mention that the government of the institution is to be vested in a board of Regents consisting of one member from each state of the Union, to be appointed by the Governor. Each State and Territory shall be entitled to scholarships in the ratio of one for each Representative or Delegate and two for each Senator. These scholarships shall secure free instruction for five years.

The Republicans in both branches of Congress are after the pension office, and the Senate has passed a resolution for an investigation of its management, past and present. They complain that Commissioner Black does not treat them with sufficient deference when they call on business, and then they

have to do something in retaliation against the recent charges, in General Black's annual report, about the Pension Bureau having been a political machine, run by Republican partisans.

## A Hero.

The Nashville Union says: If our dispatches from Birmingham give a correct account of the accident at Billy-flint river on the Louisville & Nashville road Friday night, the conduct of T. O. Harris deserves special mention. The cold was intense, being only 1° above zero. A part of the train went through the bridge, leaving Conductor Harris in one of the detached cars. The thought at once struck him that on the other side was a train coming which would evidently go down on top of the wreck, which was 100 feet below and on fire. The excitement was intense: How many were drowned or killed by the falling bridge or train the survivors did not know, and could give no relief. But the other train was coming. Its time was up. There could be no notice given unless some one could cross the river. The bridge was down and there was no water craft. The terrible alternative was presented to Harris of seeing a whole train go into the river with the loss of several lives, or risk his own life by undertaking to swim the river with the thermometer at zero. He accepted the latter alternative and swam the river and gave the notice and saved the train.

CINCINNATI Warehousemen have withdrawn from the old Tobacco Association and formed a new association, composed only of five Warehousemen, and elected inspectors, one of whom is a shipper. The Miami house remains in the old association and accepts H. Queen as Inspector.



**ROYAL**  
BAKING POWDER  
Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in cheap imitation with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. 106 N. 3rd Street, New York.

## DR. T. E. CABANISS,



DENTIST.

Rooms Cor. 3d and Franklin Sts.,

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

## Insolvent Notice.

The insolventcy of the estate of Mrs. L. Breeden, dec'd, having been suggested, all persons having claims against said estate are notified to file the same with the county Court Clerk, duly authenticated, on or before the 21st day of April, 1886.

Adm'r. of Mrs. L. Breeden, dec'd.  
Dec. 26, 1885.—4w

## Administratrix Notice.

Having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of T. J. Farley, deceased, all persons indebted to the same are notified to come forward and make payment; and those having claims against said estate will file them with me, properly authenticated, within the time required by law, or they will be barred. ELIZA RTH FARLEY, Adm'x. of T. J. Farley, dec'd.  
Dec. 26, 1885.—4w

# CRUSMAN & HOWARD,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

FIELD SEED,  
GARDEN SEED,  
Produce of all Kinds

FRUITS,

FANCY GROCERIES,  
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BRANDIES!

ENGLISH ALES AND PORTER.

LAGER BEER,

In Bottles, Etc.

Cor. First and Franklin Streets.

Clarksville, - - Tennessee.

# Removal!



## THOMAS ROHNER

The Watch-Maker, has removed from the Postoffice to two doors below F. & M. Nat. Bank, where he has a complete new stock of Ladies' and Gent's Jewelry, the best grades of American and Imported Watches, French and American Clocks, and a complete line of Spectacles and Eye Glasses, as well as the most scientific improved Optometer to test the eye with, therefore no trouble in fitting the correct Lenses. He sells his goods at the living prices, and warrants everything as represented. Watch and Clock work done to give full satisfaction or money refunded. Please give me a call. Respectfully, T. ROHNER.

## G. N. BYERS,

Fire and Life Insurance Agent.

Can give you FIRE INSURANCE in the very best English and American Companies, at as Low Rates as any one can offer.

And can give you LIFE INSURANCE on any plan you may prefer, in the

Mutual Life, of New York,

Equitable Life, of New York,

Etna Life, of Hartford, Conn.

Assets of Fire Companies represented - - \$24,587,000

Assets of Life Companies represented - - \$191,474,000

OFFICE OVER J. G. JOSEPH'S CLOTHING STORE.

T. R. HANCOCK. W. J. ELY. W. I. FRASER. W. E. RAGSDALE.

## HANCOCK, FRASER & RAGSDALE,

—PROPRIETORS—

PEOPLES'

# Tobacco Warehouse

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

FRONTING EXCHANGE.

T. R. HANCOCK, Salesman.

W. J. ELY, Book-Keeper.

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All Tobacco insured unless we have written orders to the contrary.

Oct. 24, 1885.